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C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 001063

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EUR/SCE AND EUR/WE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/14/2013

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [YI](#) [IT](#) [NATO](#)

SUBJECT: SUBJECT: GOI WILL DISCUSS KPC REFORM, UNION OF  
SERB MUNICIPALITIES, AND GOSM COOPERATION WITH ICTY DURING  
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MARCH 20 QUINT MEETING IN LONDON

REF: REF: A) STATE 59321 B) STATE 52211 C) STATE 62764

CLASSIFIED BY: CLASSIFIED BY A/POL MINISTER COUNSELOR GARY ROBBINS. REA  
SON:1.5 (B)(D)

1. (C) SUMMARY: ON MARCH 11, MFA BALKAN AFFAIRS OFFICE  
DIRECTOR FERNANDO GENTILINI TOLD POLOFF THAT THE GOI AGREES  
WITH USG POINTS (REFTELS) ON THE NEED FOR KOSOVO PROTECTION  
CORPS (KPC) REFORM, FORMATION OF THE UNION OF SERB  
MUNICIPALITIES, AND, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CARDS ASSISTANCE,  
TYING IC AID TO GOSM COOPERATION WITH THE ICTY. ITALY LOOKS  
FORWARD TO DISCUSSING THESE ISSUES AT THE MARCH 20 QUINT IN  
LONDON. END SUMMARY.

KPC REFORM  
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2. (C) GENTILINI TOLD POLOFF THAT THE GOI CONCURS WITH USG  
VIEW (REF A) THAT COORDINATED QUINT ACTION IS NECESSARY TO  
ENERGIZE THE KOSOVO PROTECTION CORPS REFORM PROCESS. HE HAD  
ALREADY INSTRUCTED ITALIAN MISSIONS IN BELGRADE AND PRISTINA  
TO PRESS LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR A QUICK START-UP OF THE CIVIL  
PROTECTION DEVELOPMENT GROUP.

3. (C) GENTILINI SAID THAT AT THE MARCH 20 QUINT MEETING IN  
LONDON THE GOI WOULD UNDERLINE THE NEED FOR A COORDINATED,  
CLEAR STRATEGY IN KOSOVO TO TURN "STANDARDS BEFORE STATUS"  
FROM MERELY A SLOGAN TO A DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN. EU HIREP  
SOLANA'S STAFF WAS DRAFTING A NON-PAPER TO HELP THE IC MOVE  
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IN THAT DIRECTION; IT WAS GENTILINI'S HOPE THAT THE QUINT  
COULD DISCUSS THE PAPER IN LONDON. HE ALSO SAID THAT THERE  
WAS A GROWING PERCEPTION IN THE IC THAT "NO ONE IS IN CHARGE"  
IN KOSOVO, AND HE WAS NOT SURE HOW MUCH LOCAL QUINT  
REPRESENTATIVES COULD DO TO CHANGE THAT SITUATION. "IT MAY  
BE TIME FOR ANOTHER HIGH-LEVEL (SOLANA) VISIT."

UNION OF SERB MUNICIPALITIES  
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4. (C) THE GOI ALSO SHARES USG CONCERNS OVER THE FORMATION  
OF THE UNION OF SERB MUNICIPALITIES (REF B). SUCH  
ORGANIZATIONS ARE NOT TO BE ENCOURAGED, SAID GENTILINI, AND  
THE TENDENCY OF LOCALS TO FORM SUCH GROUPS OUTSIDE OF THE  
UNSC 1244 FRAMEWORK IS YET ANOTHER MANIFESTATION OF THE LACK  
OF STRONG LEADERSHIP IN THE REGION. IT WAS OBVIOUS, HE SAID,  
THAT THIS WAS BEING DONE WITH A WINK AND PERHAPS ACTIVE  
ENCOURAGEMENT AND ASSISTANCE FROM BELGRADE. GENTILINI  
CONCURRED WITH, AND WOULD INSTRUCT GOI MISSIONS TO  
PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED REF B TO DISCOURAGE  
CONTACT WITH SUCH ORGANIZATIONS. BUT HE EMPHASIZED THAT THIS  
EFFORT NEEDED TO BE PART OF A COORDINATED STRATEGY FOR THE  
QUINT TO DISCUSS IN LONDON.

GOSM COOPERATION WITH ICTY  
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5. (C) GENTILINI SAID THAT THE GOI AGREED THAT THE IC MUST  
USE ALL TOOLS AT ITS DISPOSAL TO PRESS THE GOSM TO IMPROVE  
COOPERATION WITH THE ICTY (REF C). FOR EUROPEAN COUNTRIES,  
THAT WOULD INCLUDE CONDITIONALITY ON BELGRADE'S REQUEST TO  
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JOIN THE COE AND DEVELOPMENT OF A STABILIZATION AND  
ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT. HOWEVER, HE CONTINUED, THAT  
CONDITIONALITY SHOULD NOT EXTEND TO CARDS ASSISTANCE, WHICH  
IS AIMED AT SUPPORTING THE VERY INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY THAT  
THE IC IS TRYING TO PROMOTE, AND INCREASING CONFIDENCE IN THE  
RULE OF LAW. GENTILINI ARGUED THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO  
UNDERSTAND IF ONE WAS A SERB WHY, AT THE MOMENT THE COUNTRY  
WAS BEGINNING TO MAKE PROGRESS ON RECONSTRUCTING THE JUDICIAL  
SYSTEM AND OTHER SEGMENTS OF THE LEGAL INFRASTRUCTURE, THE IC  
HALTED SUCH AID. IT WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO THE IC'S  
GOALS.

16. (C) NOTE: THIS CONVERSATION TOOK PLACE PRIOR TO THE  
DJINDJIC ASSASSINATION. POLOFF WILL FOLLOW UP WITH GENTILINI  
ON POINTS RELATED TO THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN BELGRADE THAT  
GOI WILL RAISE AT THE QUINT AND EU GAC AND COUNCIL MEETINGS  
DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 17.  
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